

BOARD OF FINANCE
MARCH 12, 2009

VOTING SESSION ON FIRST SELECTMAN'S PROPOSED BUDGET 2009-2010

Present: Kathy McGannon, Marty Shapiro, Tom Tesoro, Bill Crooks, Mark Smith, Ken Martin.

Also present: Lynn Heim, Maria Pires, Dan Schopick, Ray Baldwin

The Voting Session for the First Selectman's Proposed Budget 2009-2010 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Kathy McGannon. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember our service men and women station around the world.

Motion made by Shapiro; seconded by Tesoro to approve First Selectman's budget as presented.

If there is no objection from any one, the Chairman has made the decision to take the Board of Education first and out of order. The Board unanimously agreed.

06...Education

01060000...Education...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 522205 Program Expenses to \$82,633,497, a reduction of \$1,509,131. Based on the economic conditions in front of us, the BOE needs to make some additional cuts in their budget. We are all making sacrifices. Every dollar saved in the mill rate is a dollar in the taxpayer's pocket. The administration should go back to the unions and ask for givebacks.

McGannon said it is the BOE's policy that class size is what they are going to preserved. I have heard nothing about a change in class size. Cuts will be in other areas.

Motion fails 1 – 5 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro, Crooks, Martin)

Martin moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 522205 Program Expenses to \$83,342,628, a reduction of \$800,000. Many other municipalities have made an effort to bargain with unions to discuss wages, furloughs and other give backs – Trumbull has done nothing. The \$800,000 cut factors in 7 potential teacher cuts that could be name by the BOE without impacting class size amounting to \$550,000 savings. The other \$250,000 is for "tighten your belt" sector.

Motion fails 2 – 4 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro, Crooks)

Crooks moved; Smith seconded to amend 522205 Program Expenses by \$550,000. Crooks has approached this subject very carefully where specific cuts could be considered. This Board has no right statutorily or morally to tell the Board where to make cuts in their budget. What he is offering only for consideration the following: Special Ed transportation item that was inadvertently budgeted by the Board of Ed

because they did not budget for the tuition. The student was no longer eligible for paid tuition nor paid transportation but in the evidence we received from the Superintendent the transportation amount some \$23,000 was inadvertently included in the budget.

After a detailed analysis of the energy costs, we show that the BOE could pair down its gas and heating budget by \$63,000.

The other item is the amount budgeted and the number of positions budgeted for teachers. In these dire times I'm asking the Board to take a look at the efficiency of its model both for elementary as well as jr. and sr. high to see if greater efficiency could be sought in the number of teachers that are staffed currently and projected for next year. The problem is that the elementary schools do not have the number of students they had at one time. Also there is the problem of the number of students in each class. There may be modifications of that particular policy that could be considered.

The Chair is not in disagreement with Mr. Crooks. The bottom line is that the BOE has chosen to stick to class guideline policies. Whether I agree or disagree, that is the policy of the board. Unless the BOE were to change that policy, I am fearful of where the \$550,000 in cuts would come from.

Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Tesoro, Shapiro)

Tesoro thinks the Board of Education did a wonderful job in putting together a less than status quo budget. It is my fervent hope that all the unions in town would come forward and offer a deferral of 3 – 6 – 12 months of their increase and in so doing giving the Town Council the opportunity to give some tax relief to members of the community. I also think that class size is important.

Tesoro moved to reduce 522205 Program Expense by \$100,000; seconded by Shapiro.

Motion carries 3 – 0 – 3 (Crooks, Smith, Martin)

Crooks moved to increase 589901 Annual Rentals the amount of \$24,000; seconded by Smith. This refers to custodial overtime incurred by the BOE for town community use for the school buildings for after hours.

Motion carries 5 – 1 (Tesoro)

Total Education ...\$91,269,721, a reduction of \$76,000.

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce all 556601 Seminars to zero across the board.
Discussion.

Smith withdrew his motion; Martin withdrew his seconded.

Tesoro moved; Martin seconded to reduce all 556601 Seminars by 50% across the board with the exception of the First Selectman to remain as presented at 100%. Motion carries 4 – 2 (Martin, Smith)

01060200...School Nurses...556601 Seminars reduced by \$120 to \$120
Total School Nurses...\$713,073, a reduction of \$120.

01060400...Non Public Schools...556601 Seminars reduced by \$60 to \$60.
Total Non Public Schools...\$281,253, a reduction of \$60.

01060600...Business Education Initiative...Total BEI...\$39,330

Total Education Budget...\$92,303,377, a reduction of \$76,180

01...General Government

01010000...Town Council...Total Town Council...\$79,189

01010100...Trumbull Nature Commission...Smith moved; Shapiro seconded to reduce 578802 Maint. Repair by \$3,000 to 0...Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 581888 Capital Outlay by \$1,800. This is for a new furnace. The quote in the budget seems a little high... Motion carries 6 - 0

Total Nature Commission...\$12,002, a reduction of \$4,800

It is hoped that this will be the last time for them to come in for these items and that next time they will be able to take care of them with donations.

01010200...Ethics Commission...Total Ethics Commission...\$120.

01010400...First Selectman...Total First Selectman...\$271,335

01010600...Probate...Total Probate...\$15,532

01010800...Elections...Smith moved to increase 501105 Overtime by \$1,009; seconded by Shapiro. Per recommendation of Bill Holden, Registrar. Motion carries unanimously 6 – 0

Total Elections...\$108,559, an increase of \$1,009.

01011000...Finance...Reduce 556601 by \$2,500 to \$2,500...Total Finance...\$519,331, a reduction of \$2,500.

01011400...Board of Finance...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 545501 Legal Notices by \$800 to \$800...Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 501101 Salaries by \$30,910. Discussion...Shapiro withdrew his motion; Tesoro withdrew his second.

Total Board of Finance...\$65,744, a reduction of \$800

01011600...Tax Assessor...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 501105 Overtime by \$400 to \$100. This amount was suggested by the department head.... Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 581888 by \$200,000 to 0. This is for revaluation. Smith thinks the town can find better efficiencies to do this when the times comes. Shapiro feels it would be better to put this off for a year and hope the economy improves. I think doing a reval for this coming year, our homeowners will take on the brunt of the tax increase that corporate taxes would not work. Baldwin warned the State may not allow for a deferment of what is a statutory obligation to revalue property every five years. Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved to add back to the 556601 Seminars account \$2,365; seconded by Tesoro. If we are going to possibly do this evaluation in house we need to have two or three assessors who would be certified and that they could make contact with other professionals they could call on for some help... Motion carries 6 – 0.

Crooks would like some sort of accountability of how this money is spent.

Total Assessor...\$321,271...a reduction of \$200,400

01011800...Board of Assessment Appeals...556601 reduced to \$60. Total Board of Assessment Appeals...\$1,130...a reduction of \$60

01012000...Tax Collector...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 545504 Postage by \$4,400 to \$15,000 per department head. Motion carries 6 – 0.
556601 Seminars reduced to \$113.

Total Tax Collector...\$310,199...a reduction of \$4,675

01012200...Purchasing...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 545501 Legal Notices by \$500 to \$3,500. Motion carries 6 – 0. 556601 Seminars reduced by \$113 to \$113.

Total Purchasing...\$116,916, a reduction of \$613.

01012400...Treasurer...Total Treasurer...\$21,778

01012600...Technology...Total Technology...\$245,474

01012800...Town Attorneys...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 501101 Salaries to \$102,945 reducing the number of town attorneys from 4 to 3. Tesoro thinks

the First Selectman should have the right to have the number of attorneys he feels necessary to run the town. Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

Total Town Attorneys...\$180,789

01013000...Human Resources...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 522201 Clerical Fees by \$120 to \$480. Per department head. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 522203 Ancillary Fees by \$1,550 to \$2,450. Per department head. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Human Resources...\$184,857, a reduction of \$1,670

01013600...Town Clerk...Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to increase 501102 Salaries-PT by \$2,700 to \$15,996. Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to increase 501105 Overtime by \$2,000 to \$2,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to decrease 578803 Maintenance Repair by \$460 to \$3,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

556601 Seminars reduced to \$860

Total Town Clerk...\$211,545, a reduction of \$3,380

01013800...Town Hall...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 522208 Contributions by \$27,830. Removal of CCM (\$22,830), RYASAP (\$5,000). Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

Smith moved; Shapiro seconded to reduce 522208 Contributions by \$5,000. Removal of RYASAP. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Town Hall...\$1,842,104, a reduction of \$5,000

01014000...Custodial...Total Custodial \$293,063

01014200...Planning & Zoning...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 501102 Salaries-{PT} by \$3,030. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Planning & Zoning...\$172,336, a reduction of \$3,030

01014400...Zoning Board of Appeals...Total ZBA \$11,520

01014600...Economic Development... Smith moved; Martin seconded to add \$80,000 to 522202 Prof. Serv. Contractual. This is to make the Economic Development director position a full-time consulting position. This can help maintain current revenues and increase revenues in the future. The position should be opened up to an application process from which we can get a larger pool of candidates to choose from. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Shapiro seconded to reduce 501102 Salaries-Pt by \$65,000 to zero. Motion carries 6 – 0

556601 Seminars reduced to \$500

Total Economic Development...\$99,800, an increase of \$14,500

01014800...Inland Wetlands Commission...Total Inland Wetlands \$9,875

01015000...Recycling...Total Recycling \$3,750

01015400...Conservation Commission...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 522201 Clerical by \$360 to \$360. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 545502 Public Reports by \$150 to \$150. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 556604 Publications by \$108 to \$107. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Conservation Commission \$702, a reduction of \$618

01015800...Transit District...Total Transit District \$44,084

02...Public Safety

01022000...Police...Motion made by Smith; seconded by Martin to reduce 501101 Salaries by \$140,000 to \$5,452,251. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded to increase 501104 by \$14,896. This is to cover the third shift. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to increase 501105 Overtime by \$30,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 567702 Vehicle Repair by \$15,000. Motion carries 6 – 0.

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 581888 Capital Outlay by \$900. Motion carries 6 – 0.

Total Police Department...\$6,925,515, a reduction of \$111,004

01022200...Special Detail...Total Special Detail \$12,000

01022400...Animal Control...Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 501105 Overtime by \$200. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Animal Control \$108,573, a reduction of \$200

01022500...Central Emergency Dispatch...Total Central Emergency Dispatch \$720

01022600...Emergency Medical Services...Smith moved; Martin seconded to decrease 522205 Program Expenses by \$5,000. This eliminates the annual party. Motion carries 6 – 0

Crooks moved; Tesoro seconded to increase 581888 Capital Outlay by \$22,325 enabling the department to secure lease purchase for two ambulances. Motion carries 6 – 0

556601 Seminars reduced to \$1,000

Total EMS \$771,163, an increase of \$16,325

01022800...Fire Marshal...Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 556603 by \$550. Motion carries 6 – 0.

556601 Seminars reduced to \$1,800.

Total Fire Marshal \$239,497, a reduction of \$2,350

01022824... Fire Marshal-Hydrants...Total Fire Hydrants \$1,206,754

01022824...Building Official...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to increase 501102 Salaries-PT by \$2,040. This relates to the Blight Officer. Motion carries 6 – 0

556601 Seminars reduced to \$150

Total Building Official \$256,559, an increase of \$1,890

01023400...Emergency Management...Motion made by Smith; seconded by Crooks to increase 501105 Overtime by \$3,640. Motion carries 6 – 0.

Motion made by Smith; seconded by Crooks to reduce 578802 Maintenance/Rep by \$1,000. Based on run rate. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Emergency Management \$67,621, an increase of \$2,640

Total 02 Public Safety...\$9,588,402, a decrease of \$92,699

03... Public Works

01030000...Public Works Director...Total Public Works Director \$153,584

01030023...Security-Building and Grounds...Total Security-Bldg. & Grounds \$130,810

01030025...Street Lights...Total Street Lights \$393,160

01030100...Public Works-Highway...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 501101 by \$154,214 to \$2,370,588 to recognize vacant positions plus \$40,000 for turnover salaries. Motion fails 2 – 4 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro, Crooks)

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 534402 Program Supplies by \$15,000 to \$160,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 581888 Capital Outlay the amount of \$3,000 to \$3,300. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 589901 Annual Rentals/Leases by \$26,000 (removal of snow truck). Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 589901 by \$5,000 (for pickup). Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to increase 589901 by \$20,000 for tractor. Motion carries 6 – 0

Martin moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 501101 Salaries by \$81,679 (vacant position plus \$40,000 turnover) Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 501101 Salaries by \$40,000 (for turnover). Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Public Works-Highway \$3,221,612, a reduction of \$43,200.

01030101...Snow Removal...Total Snow Removal \$550,000

01030105...Highway-Construction...Total Highway-Construction \$300,000

01030200...Public Works-Maintenance/Fleet...Tesoro moved; Shapiro seconded to reduce 522203 Ancillary Services by \$2,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 534402 Program Supplies by \$2,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 589902 Rentals/Lease by \$600. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Public Works-Maintenance/Fleet \$965,297, a reduction of \$4,600

01030400...Disposal Area...Smith moved; seconded by Crooks to reduce 522204 Contractual Services by \$10,000 to \$1,843,300 per director. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Disposal Area \$2,063,662, a reduction of \$10,000

01030500...Town Engineer...Smith moved, Crooks seconded to reduce 581888 Capital Outlay by \$130,000. This is the first part of GIS. Motion carries 6 – 0

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 501101 by \$10,816. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Town Engineer \$401,263, a reduction of \$140,816

Total 03 Public Works...\$8,179,388, a reduction of \$198,616

04...Public Health

0104000...Board of Health...Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 522205 Program Expenses by \$8,679 per director. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Board of Health \$226,940, a reduction of \$8,679

01040200...Vital Statistics...Total Vital Statistics \$1,050

01040400...Nursing-Sr./Well Child...Total Nursing Sr./Well Child \$65,115

Total 04 Public Health...\$293,105, a reduction of \$8,679

05...Social Services

01050000...Social Services...Total Social Services \$134,534

01050200...Counseling Services...Total Counseling Center \$209,005

01050400...Youth Commission...Total Youth Commission \$54,880

01050600...Senior Citizen's Services...Smith moved; Martin seconded that 522205 Program Expenses be reduced by \$3,250 to \$21,750 per director. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded that 534401 Office Supplies be reduced by \$200 to \$1,200. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded that 567703 Travel Reimb. Be increased by \$200 to \$400. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Martin seconded that 581888 Capital Outlay be reduced by \$4,280 to \$2,774. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Senior Citizen's Services \$201,879, a reduction of \$7,530

Total 05 Social Services \$600,298, a reduction of \$7,530

07...Libraries

01070000...Library...556601 Seminars reduced to \$850.

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to restore \$850 to 556601 Seminars. Motion fails 1 – 5 (McGannon, Tesoro, Shapiro, Crooks, Martin)

Total 07 Libraries... \$1,516,922, a reduction of \$850

08...Public Events

01080000... Public Events...Total Public Events \$25,000

01080300...Trumbull Day...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 589901 by \$10,000. This is for Trumbull Day cleanup. Motion carries 4 – 2 (Tesoro, McGannon)

Total Trumbull Day \$720, a reduction of \$10,000

01080400...Recreation...556601 Seminars reduced by \$400.

Total Recreation \$464,741, a reduction of \$400

01080600...Parks...Motion made by Smith; seconded by Crooks to reduce 501103 by \$2,500 to \$72,967. This is to correct error in addition in text. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Shapiro seconded to reduce 589901 Annual Rentals by \$6,500 to \$92,250. This eliminates one truck. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Shapiro seconded to increase 589901 Annual Rentals by \$3,000 for the other half of the multi-purpose tractor. Motion carries 6 – 0

556601 Seminars reduced by \$750

Total Parks \$1,575,632, a reduction of \$6,750

01080800...Tree Warden...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 522205 Program Expenses by \$5,000 to \$55,000.

Total Tree Warden \$95,525, a reduction of \$5,000

01080900...Arts Commission...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 567703 Travel Reimb. By \$150 to \$100 per the director. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Arts Commission \$28,414, a reduction of \$150

Total 08 Recreation...\$2,190,032, a reduction of \$22,300

09... Debt Service...Total Debt Service \$4,410,398

01 – General Government

01013400...Employee Benefits

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 511150 FICA by \$15,032 to \$1,260,406. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total Employee Benefits \$10,343,536, a reduction of \$15,032

Total 01 General Government...\$15,486,547, a reduction of \$214,249

TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET, AS AMENDED...\$134,568,469, A REDUCTION OF \$621,103

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to approve General Fund Budget, as amended, in the amount of \$134,568,469, a reduction of \$621,103.

Before we exercise our vote, Mr. Crooks stated that he will abstain from this particular vote because of the education vote. This is not to be construed as disagreeing with all other non educational departments that were voted on with the exception of Education and because that is such a large amount in itself, he will abstain from voting on the total. He basically agrees with all other department budgets.

Motion carries 3 – 0 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

ENTERPRISE FUNDS:

20100000...Sewer...WPCA...Enterprise...Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 501888 Uniform Allowance by \$250 to \$500. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 522201 Clerical Fees by \$747 to \$300. Based on past history. Motion carries 6 – 0

Smith moved; Crooks seconded to reduce 545501 Legal Notices by \$3,000 to \$5,000. Motion carries 6 – 0

Total WPCA...\$4,955,020, a reduction of \$3,997

21100000...Tashua Golf...Enterprise...Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 522204 Contractual Services by \$5,000. (to eliminate stump removal) Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Tesoro, Shapiro)

556601 Seminars reduced by \$2,500 to \$2,500

Smith moved; Martin seconded to reduce 556602 Assn. Dues by \$585 to \$2,425. Motion fails 3 – 3 (McGannon, Tesoro, Shapiro)

Smith moved; Tesoro seconded to reduce 567702 Transportation/Veh. Repair by \$1,500 to \$3,500. Based on run rate. Motion carries 5 – 1 (Shapiro)

Total Tashua Golf Course...\$1,960,624, a reduction of \$4,000

Total Enterprise Funds...\$6,915,644, a reduction of \$7,997

GRAND TOTAL: \$141,484,113, A REDUCTION OF \$629,100

Shapiro moved; Tesoro seconded to approve Grand Total, as amended, in the amount of \$141,484,113, a reduction of \$629,100.

Mr. Martin echoes Mr. Crooks' sentiments and also abstains due to the Education vote.

Motion carries 3 – 0 – 3 (McGannon, Shapiro, Tesoro)

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk